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BOOK REVIEWS

THE BABY'S FIRST TWO YEARS. By Richard M. Smith and Mrs. Henry Copley Greene. 141 pages. Houghton, Mifflin Company, Boston and New York. Price, \$1.25.

In this book the authors have made available for mothers a knowledge of simple health rules and of procedures relative to the care of a normal infant. Using the authors' own explanatory notes, we learn that "the book is divided into three parts. The first part, chapters I to X, is made up of definite rules for the care and feeding of infants up to two years of age; the second part, chapters XI to XIII, consists of general suggestions which may be modified to suit the individual baby; the third part contains recipes and charts."

The book first of all outlines the proper physical setting desirable for the health and comfort of the child; this is followed by a detailed list of necessary equipment and supplies. A word picture of a normal baby is followed by simple necessary rules for the development of a healthy baby, and for the recognition and treatment of common illnesses.

It is well known that with our modern continuous research studies along lines of health for children, a book cannot be written which will not introduce controversial subjects as to foods and hours of feeding. With our present knowledge of breast feeding one might wish that the value of breast feeding had been stressed more forcibly, but as the authors state "the question must be decided by the physicians according to the circumstances in each instance."

We have learned to think in terms of general health of the normal infant and of child life up to two years of age, but young mothers who appreciate the value of early proper environmental surroundings for babies are keen to have within their reach explicit rules and regulations which will assist them in the home training of their own babies.

This book, based upon scientific principles, which have been tried out in a practical manner, in a broad field and which have been expressed in understandable terms, will prove of inestimable value to the caretaker of the young child.

HARRIET L. LEETE, R.N.,
Field Director, American Child Hygiene Association.

THE VITAMINE MANUAL. By Walter S. Eddy. Williams and Wilkins Company, Baltimore, Md. 121 pages. Price, \$2.50.

The Vitamine Manual, by Walter H. Eddy, of Teachers College, is a valuable summary of known facts regarding the fascinating,